

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

SAN FRANCISCO DISTRICT, US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS 450 GOLDEN GATE AVENUE, 4th FLOOR SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3406

April 16, 2025

Dear Interested Parties,

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, 42 U.S.C. § 4321 *et seq*), as amended, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, San Francisco District (USACE) has prepared a Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Pajaro River at Watsonville, California, Reach 6 Flood Risk Management Project. This document, titled *Pajaro River at Watsonville, California, Reach 6 Flood Risk Management Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment #2, was developed in collaboration with the Pajaro Regional Flood Management Agency (PRFMA).*

The draft Supplemental EA provides an evaluation and description of design updates made to the project plan for Reach 6 (Corralitos Creek) since the publication of the original General Reevaluation Report and Environmental Assessment (GRR/EA) in December 2019 and the publication of the Pajaro Reach 6 Project Supplemental EA #1 in June 2024. Specifically, the proposed updates pertain to the construction and operation of interior drainage features, including the addition of seven gravity culverts along the levee and a new 24-cubic-feet-per-second (cfs) pump station with an associated discharge pipe located near the downstream end of Reach 6.

All effects anticipated to occur from these features are expected to be fully mitigated to a less than significant level, as detailed in the draft Supplemental EA.

The USACE is providing notice of the availability of this draft Supplemental EA for public review and comment. The public comment period will run until May 16, 2025. We invite your review and feedback!

The Draft Supplemental EA and associated appendices can be accessed by navigating your web browser to the website below and clicking on the "Draft Pajaro River at Watsonville, California Reach 6 Flood Risk Management Project – Supplemental Environmental Assessment #2 [PDF]" title in the center of the page to open the report document.

Website: https://www.spn.usace.army.mil/Missions/Projects-and-Programs/Current-Projects/Pajaro-River-Watsonville/

Please send electronic comments to Pajaro-River@usace.army.mil. If you wish to mail your comments, please address them to Ms. Hannah Fertel, Environmental Manager, at the address in the letterhead above. All comments must be received prior to the close of the comment period on May 16, 2025. Please contact Ms. Fertel with any questions at (628) 278-9194. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

JULIE BEAGLE

Julie Beagle

Chief, Environmental Services Branch San Francisco District, US Army Corps of Engineers